

## AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

*Exchange of notes at México January 6 and 27, 1944.*

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58 Stat. 1425; Executive Agreement Series 421

*The American Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs*

EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
*Mexico, D.F., January 6, 1944*

No. 2180

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to refer to conversations which took place in Mexico City between the Minister of Agriculture and Fomento of the United Mexican States, Ingeniero Marte R. Gomez, and the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States of America, the Honorable Claude R. Wickard, on the occasion of the visit of the latter to Mexico in 1942, with reference to the mutual advantages to the economies of the two countries of close collaboration in the field of agriculture and with reference to the establishment of a permanent Mexican-United States Agricultural Commission. These conversations have been supplemented by conversations between Your Excellency and myself and between this Embassy and the Minister of Agriculture and Fomento, Ingeniero Marte R. Gomez.

I now have the honor under instructions from my Government, formally to propose the establishment of a permanent Mexican-United States Agricultural Commission on the basis set forth below. As a result of the conversations which have taken place on this matter it is intended that this Commission would be a technical Commission and therefore composed of technicians in agriculture. In view of the fact that it is a technical commission which will occupy itself with agricultural programs of mutual interest to the two Governments, the Commission would function, of course, as a separate Commission and distinct from all others.

I should appreciate being informed by Your Excellency whether the proposals set forth below are agreeable to the Mexican Government.

1. There is hereby established the Mexican-United States Agricultural Commission with a view to (a) coordinating the cooperative activities of the Departments of Agriculture of the two Governments already in operation, and (b) carrying into effect the recommendation of the Mexican-United

States Commission for Economic Cooperation, established by the President of the United States and the President of Mexico in April 1943,<sup>1</sup> that the Departments of Agriculture of the two countries take all appropriate steps to assure active and continuous cooperation.

In a subsequent note, which will be addressed to Your Excellency in the very near future, I shall convey to Your Excellency further suggestions of my Government as to the composition and size of the Commission. It is the understanding of my Government that the Commission members shall have general technical competence in agriculture and be conversant with the resources, policies and programs of their respective Governments. The membership from each country should include the Agricultural Attaché stationed at the capital of the other country. One member of each country group will be designated as Chairman of his group and will serve as Co-Chairman of the Commission. Each member shall be authorized to designate an alternate.

2. The general objective of the Commission shall be to promote agriculture in Mexico and the United States along the lines mutually advantageous to the two countries, giving appropriate attention at the present time to developments that will make a maximum contribution to the common war effort but keeping primarily in view the longer term aspects of agricultural development in the future years of peace to come.

(a) Review current and prospective agricultural problems and trends of mutual interest to the two countries, including matters relating to supplies of agricultural and food products and the facilities for their production, processing and handling, and to recommend from time to time specific undertakings for agricultural improvement in the interest of better utilization of agricultural resources.

(b) Consider and report on general plans in respect to the production and procurement of agricultural products needed to supply the essential civilian, military and rehabilitation needs of the United Nations, and to that end consider and report on the general policies which shall govern the carrying-out of such plans.

(c) Formulate and recommend plans and procedures for exchange of information on specific problems of scientific, technological, economic and social character in agriculture and rural life.

(d) Review and formulate proposals in reference to regulatory activities affecting agricultural production and trade between the two countries.

(e) Formulate plans and recommendations for the mutually advantageous utilization of available subject-matter, research personnel, and other technical agricultural resources in the two countries and, in this connection, encourage the training of agricultural specialists, for basic improvement in agricultural production and administration.

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<sup>1</sup> *Department of State Bulletin*, May 1, 1943, p. 376.

3. As a means of carrying out the objectives outlined under 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e), a committee on technical agricultural collaboration shall be established to work through and under the general supervision of the commission. The members of the technical committee shall be appointed by the Secretaries of Agriculture of the two countries.

4. The first meeting of the Commission shall be held at the earliest possible date following the designation by each Government of its representatives on the Commission.

In transmitting the foregoing proposals for the consideration of Your Excellency's Government, I wish to state that it is the conviction of my Government that such a technical Agricultural Commission will be the effective means of assuring fruitful collaboration in the field of agriculture between the two Governments and the respective Departments of Agriculture.

Accept, Your Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

G. S. MESSERSMITH

His Excellency

Señor Licenciado Don EZEQUIEL PADILLA,  
*Minister for Foreign Affairs,*  
*Mexico, D.F.*

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*The Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs to the American Chargé d'Affaires  
ad interim*

[TRANSLATION]

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
UNITED MEXICAN STATES  
MEXICO CITY

México, D.F., January 27, 1944

MR. CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES:

I have the honor to refer again to note no. 2180 which His Excellency Ambassador Messersmith was good enough to send me on the 6th instant, to propose to my Government, in the name of that of the United States of America, the establishment of a Permanent Mexican-North American Agricultural Commission, on the bases set forth in the same note.

The Secretaría de Agricultura y Fomento, having been consulted on the matter, has just informed me that it is entirely in agreement with the establishment of the Commission and with the said bases, for which reason I venture to inform you that my Government accepts the proposal to which the present note refers and is in agreement that the Commission to which it

refers should be established in accordance with the bases formulated by the Government of the United States of America.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my highest consideration.

V. SANTOS GJDO

Mr. HERBERT S. BURSLEY,  
*Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the*  
*Embassy of the United States of America,*  
*City.*